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### UM honors Flathead friends, alumni Sept. 29

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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Sept. 24, 1998

**Contact:** Bill Johnston, UM Alumni Association director, (406) 243-2511.

### **UM HONORS FLATHEAD FRIENDS, ALUMNI SEPT. 29**

#### **MISSOULA --**

University of Montana-Missoula leaders will host a reception in Kalispell Tuesday, Sept. 29, to thank Flathead-area alumni and friends for their support.

The UM delegation, led by President George Dennison, will pay special tribute to alumnus George Ostrom, a longtime University booster and community leader, during the 5 p.m. reception at the Kalispell Elks Lodge. The public is invited for complimentary snacks; a no-host bar will be offered.

In addition, Ostrom and all Flathead Valley fans will be recognized during the Montana Grizzlies' Homecoming football game against Portland State University at Washington-Grizzly Stadium on Saturday, Oct. 3.

During Tuesday's reception, Ostrom will receive UM's Community Service Award for his support of campus and his volunteer work in Kalispell.

Ostrom is a longtime member of the UM President's Advisory Council and has lobbied in the Montana Legislature for higher education issues over the years.

As a prominent Flathead Valley newsman, he has covered UM for many years. He's currently actively involved in the campaign to keep the six-mill levy, which contributes 14 percent of the total state support for higher education.

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Ostrom has taught at Flathead Valley Community College and has served on its board of trustees. He writes a column for the Hungry Horse News and serves as news director at KOFI radio station, which he previously owned.

The Flathead Valley is one stop on UM's statewide Community Days tour, which was revived this year after a 10-year hiatus. Receptions are held to honor Grizzly fans in their communities before each home game.

Bill Johnston, executive director of the UM Alumni Association, said the event was revived as a way to "recognize and thank people across Montana for their support of UM."

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